

REMARKS

The courtesies extended to the undersigned by Examiner John Haran during a telephone discussion held December 21, 2004 are acknowledged and appreciated. As discussed during that conversation, it is believed that the claims now pending in the subject U.S. patent application, and taken in concert with the following discussion are in condition for allowance. It is believed that the changes made to currently amended claim 33 do not constitute any new matter and will not require any additional searching on the part of the Examiner. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action of December 13, 2004 claims 33 and 34 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. It was noted that claim 33 recites the step of separating the fastened-together paper web train from the paper web holding devices, and the step of moving the paper web holding devices of the paper web draw-in device out of contact with the fastened-together paper web train. It was set forth that "There does not appear to be any support in the specification that... the holding devices are removed from the entire paper web train once operation of the printing press commences."

As discussed with Examiner Haran on December 21, 2004, the Substitute Specification, as paragraph 078 thereof, provides a description of the claimed method steps set forth above. It is recited in paragraph 078 that the endless belt traction means 33, 34, 124, which form the paper web draw-in device, have a sufficiently large portion designed without spikes 35. Those spikes 35 are the paper web holding device on the paper web draw-in device. As is also recited in paragraph 078, once the paper webs

have reached the hopper folding rollers, i.e. the webs have arrived at the end of the longitudinal folding hopper, the traction means are moved in such a way that finally only the portion of the traction means, which has no spikes, is located on the hopper plate, the hopper flanks and the hopper flank plates; i.e. on the longitudinal folding hopper.

Claim 33 has been amended to recite that a portion of the draw-in device has the paper web holding devices. Claim 33 has also been amended to recite that it is the portion of the paper web draw-in device that is moved out of contact with the fastened-together paper web train prior to operation of the press to separate the paper web train from the paper web holding devices of the portion of the paper web draw-in device.

It is believed that claim 33, as currently amended, and as previously presented complies with 35 USC 112, first paragraph. The Substitute Specification is believed to describe the method steps recited in claim 33. The amending of claim 33 to recite the provision of the paper web holding devices on a portion of the draw-in device is supported by the Substitute Specification and does not raise any new issues which would require additional searching.

Claims 33 and 34 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. It was noted that the recited separating step and the recited moving step are two steps that accomplish the same thing and that would be better claimed as a single step. As discussed with Examiner Haran, the step of moving the portion of the paper web draw-in device out of contact with the paper web train accomplishes the separation of the paper web train from the paper web holding devices. The last two clauses or steps of the method recited in claim 33 have been reversed in order and have been combined into one step. The single step now recites moving the portion of the draw-in

device out of contact with the web for separating the train from the holding devices.

The phrase "prior to operation of said rotary printing press during production of said rotary printing press" was asserted as not making sense. That phrase has been cancelled from currently amended claim 33. Its intent was to differentiate between the web draw-in phase of press operation and the production phase of press operation.

There are two separate phases of operation. Currently amended claim 33 recites that the portion of the paper web draw-in device is moved out of contact with the web train prior to operation of the press. The change in language should overcome the Examiner's rejection of the prior language. It is thus believed that currently amended claim 33 is now in condition for allowance.

Previously presented claim 34 is carried forward. Since it depends from believed allowable, currently amended claim 33, it is also believed to be allowable.

The prior art of record has again been reviewed. Since it was not relied on in the rejections of the claims, no further discussion thereof is believed to be required.

SUMMARY

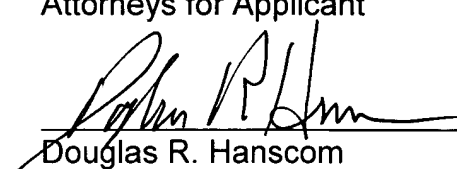
Claims 1-32 and 35-62 were previously cancelled. Claim 33 is currently amended. Claim 34 is carried forward. It is believed that the claims now pending in the subject U.S. patent application are allowable. It is further believed that this Amendment After Final Rejection is an earnest effort to place the application in condition for allowance without raising any new issues and without requiring additional searching.

Allowance of the claims, and passage of the application to issue is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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